

THE TECH

VOL. XXVIII. No. 55

BOSTON, MASS., FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 1909

PRICE THREE CENTS

NO CHANGES MADE IN POINT SYSTEM

**Institute Committee Takes
Up Many Important
Matters**

SANITATION DISCUSSED

**Perpetual Bulletin Board Planned
No Special Privileges to
Fifth Year Men**

Considerable business was transacted at a special meeting of the Institute Committee held Wednesday afternoon.

The point system was once more considered but no real changes were made. Some argument was advanced as to whether the Technique Electoral Committee was properly rated. It was thought that when the committee is as large as this one and is supposed to be made up of the most representative men in the class that the point system would perhaps work in the wrong direction. It is a generally accepted fact that the men who go in for activities, and who are at present holding points, are the ones who best know the abilities of the men in their class, in that they come in personal contact with them. This point was argued at considerable length but no change was made in the rating as it was decided the work done and the time spent by the electoral committee was worth five points. A motion was made to reduce the rating to three points, but this was lost by one vote. To somewhat compensate this decision it was suggested that a man elected to this committee or in fact to any office might apply for temporary leave of absence from his other work or activities and so have his points discredited for the time required.

Another point taken up was that of special privileges to fifth year men or to seniors who have their work completed. It was suggested that the point system might be made flexible to the extent of two or three extra points for their special cases. This, however, was considered unfair to lower classmen, who might have passed off work in advance. It was decided to let the matter stand, with the same suggestion that leave of absence might apply here.

The question of the present condition of the 1910 Technique Board was talked over but no radical steps were taken, as it was thought that the members of the present board, who have done the work, should not have their positions taken from them and given to others who might have very little to do, even though several of the former have now severed connection with the Institute proper.

It was settled that the chair should appoint a committee to inquire into the matter of obtaining a suitable token of appreciation from the student body to be tendered to Pres. Noyes upon his retiring from office.

On account of the many conflicts which have recently occurred among the undergraduate activities, a consideration of a perpetual calendar was suggested.

(Continued on page 2.)

FENCING CUP OFFERED

A new incentive to good fencing Saturday night has been offered to the Yale, Harvard, and Technology teams in the form of a cup to be presented to the winning team. George C. Haas, captain of last year's Yale team, is the donor of this prize. From the record made so far this year by the Tech team, it certainly would seem as though the chances that the cup will come to Technology are particularly good.

Yale defeated the Navy team by 5 to 1, but only after the hardest kind of a fight. Harvard has lost to West Point by a score of 7 to 2. The Tech team has been undefeated this season, and has won seven meets.

RINKER KIBBEY LEAVES THE SHOW

**Has Been Star Comedian of
Tech Show for Six
Seasons**

FINNIE ASSUMES PLACE

**First Rehearsal of Principals,
and Chorus will Come
on Saturday**

"That Pill Grimm" is now beginning to sound like a musical comedy since the chorus has acquired the art of singing and dancing at the same time. Coach Francis is working up the stage business and has a Dutch dance of the whole chorus together, which ought to be a winner. Flockton is still busy with the singing and a new piece, "A Beer Song," by C. R. Busey 1912 and J. L. Champagne 1912, is one of the best numbers in the piece. Saturday the chorus and principals will rehearse together for the first time, running over the first act.

The principals have had a great loss in Rinker Kibbey 1908, who has been the star comedian of the show for six years. Kibbey had the part of Von Hardwick, and put into it the same humor which made his other parts famous. He fully expected to be with the show this year, but through ill health he will be unable to carry the show and his other work beside, so that he thought it best to give up the former. His place will be taken by James I. Finnie 1909, who had the part of the cabman last year, and, although it was but a small part, he got a good deal of fun out of it. Finnie's place is taken by C. H. White, 1909, White's place by H. H. Catching, 1911, and a new man, Harry L. Havens, 1909, is taking Catching's part.

Within a week now the poster will be finished and on sale in the different buildings. As this is the best poster the show has had, it will make a good ornament for a room, and it is expected that nearly everyone in the Institute will get one. Beside the regular poster there is to be a new feature this year in the form of picture post cards with a small color copy of the poster on one side. Some small cards were made last year, although not in the form of post cards, and they were so popular with all who saw them that it was decided to have regular post cards this year as souvenirs of Junior week. They will probably be out at the same time the poster is.

CRUISE AROUND WORLD

**W. B. Tardy Speaks at Union Night
On Recent Cruise of U. S.
Battlefleet**

At the Union tonight Lieut. W. B. Tardy will speak on "The Cruise around the World." Mr. Tardy, who is a graduate of Annapolis, has been the chief engineer of the U. S. Battleship Vermont ever since she was built two years ago, and even while she was under construction.

The Vermont is called the "Queen of the Navy," and in the recent trip around the world has upheld her title. At the battleship efficiency contest at Manila the Vermont captured first place. Incidentally she ran four hours at high speed under forced draft, and during this time the engines were in perfect order, and no accident happened to show that the Vermont was other than a first class and highly efficient battleship. During these trials Mr. Tardy was responsible for the perfect condition of the boat, and throughout the trip he has kept the ship in splendid condition, so that on her arrival at the home port she was in as good shape as when she started, barring the effects of the weathering of a cruise of such length as that taken by the battleship fleet.

ENGINEERING AS A PROFESSION

**Professor Swain Spoke at
the Harvard Union
Last Night**

STATUS OF ENGINEER

**The Innovation of the Graduate
School at Harvard Is An
Advancement**

At the Harvard Union last night Prof. Swain of the engineering department spoke on "Engineering as a Profession."

Prof. Swain gave an account of the field covered by the engineering professions and the qualifications and education necessary to the man who would become an engineer. He continued to tell of the opportunities afforded the follower of engineering and the opportunities afforded the followers of the other fields of learning.

Prof. Swain maintains that, while in the past the law, medical, and theological professions have been the professions in which men have been respected for their brains, the fields of engineering and architecture are fully deserving of being cast in the same category, and in fact the engineering profession covers a wider field than do the law, medicine and theological fields and require as much training and of as high a degree of mental power.

He gave an account of the development of engineering, calling attention to the fact that the entire industrial system has been developed within the last century and a half and that this is the age of engineering. In upholding this stand he gave the statistics that, in New York City at the present time the works under construction and those projected will require an expenditure of about \$100,000,000, and that the estimated cost of the single item of engineering the Panama Canal will be about \$360,000,000. Wherever we turn we meet with a repetition of all these tremendous undertakings under way.

Prof. Swain then continued his discussion of the engineering professions, with the statement that the engineer is not yet regarded as so thoroughly a trained or cultivated a man as those of the so called learned professions, but every year more and more men are entering the field of engineering.

Prof. Swain, in conclusion, said that Harvard, in making its engineering school a graduate school and thereby recognizing the fact that men in the engineering profession require as great a training as men in other professions, is making a great step towards putting the engineering profession on a basis with the fields of law, medical and theology.

TRACK WORK BEGINS

Regular track work will commence next Monday when the locker room at the Field will be opened for the spring season. During the winter the track has been greatly improved. Several tons of special cinders have been placed upon it and J. J. Lee, the crack B. A. A. distance runner, declares it to be, with the exception of Wood Island, the best track in New England.

The three cups recently presented by the Alumni for competition in the spring meet have been placed on exhibition at the cage and these should prove a great incentive for men to come out, particularly in preparation for this spring meet.

On Tuesday and Thursday the weight men will practise on the field near Lowell Building, and on Saturday at the Field in Brookline. On these days L. D. Nisbet 1909, will have charge of the discus men, L. G. Metcalf 1911, the hammer throwers, and H. S. Gott 1910, and O. B. Chamberlin 1910, the shot putters. These men have not been picked as coaches but rather merely to give the

(Continued on page 3.)

GYMNASIUM TEAM MEETS AMHERST

**First Intercollegiate Gym
Meet Ever Entered by
a Tech Team**

FIVE EVENTS IN ALL

**First and Second Prizes for All
Events, Except Indian
Club Swinging**

On Tuesday evening next the Institute gymnasium team will meet Amherst in a dual contest at the Tech Gym. This meet will be the first intercollegiate contest of its kind which a Tech team has ever entered, and the management desires as large an attendance as possible in order to make it a success.

The Institute team has been practising faithfully for a long time and a good contest is promised. Some of the men have not been in many meets before and encouragement will mean a lot to the success of the team.

There will be five events in all and a first and second medal will be offered for each event except the Indian Clubs. In this event a first prize only will be offered. It has not been possible for Amherst to give the Tech her list of men in time for publication, but the Tech team has been practically picked. On the horizontal bar the best men are Capt. H. S. Gott 1910, and W. D. Allen 1911, on the parallel probably S. H. Seelye 1912, and Gott will compete, while on the horse, R. L. Carey 1909, will be the chief performer. In the mat work the men are all fairly good, the best being probably R. I. Jacobs, 1910, Gott, Carey, and C. W. Wilson, 1910. B. F. Courtney will hold down his reputation for club-swinging, and promises to give Amherst a hard tussle for first place.

The judges for the meet will be among the best obtainable. There will be three on each piece of apparatus. The judges will be Mr. C. L. Schrader of the Harvard gymnasium, Dr. Garland of the Boston Y. M. C. A., and Mr. Geo. F. Evans, a former member of the crack Harvard Gym. team. Major Briggs will probably be custodian of prizes.

DEWEY IS PRESIDENT

At a meeting of the Mechanical Engineering Society held last night in the Union offices for the ensuing year were elected.

They are as follows: President, F. A. Dewey 1909; Vice-President, D. V. Williamson 1910; Secretary, A. P. Truette 1910; Treasurer, E. Sawyer 1910; Executive Committee—A. L. Fabens 1910, R. A. D. Preston 1910, and D. R. Stevens 1911.

On resigning his office Pres. C. W. Hubbard 1909, said that he had greatly appreciated his official position with the fellows. He said further that he was just beginning to appreciate what the society was capable of and was sorry that he had to sever his connections with it, for he believed good things were in store for it in the future, particularly as the younger members of the faculty were beginning to show a lively interest in its welfare. He believed that the more a man puts into the society the more he gets out.

CALENDAR

FRIDAY, MAR. 12.

1.00 P. M. 1911 Class Meeting in Huntington Hall.

6.20 P. M. 1910 Class Dinner.

8.00 P. M. Lieut. Tardy Union night.

SATURDAY, MAR. 13.

2.19 P. M. Cross-country squad leaves Back Bay station for Hyde Park.

8.00 P. M. Preliminary Intercollegiate fencing trials at Gym.

THE TECH

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Editorial Staff.

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Friday, March 12, 1909.

Hats off!

On to Hyde Park!

Locker room at the Field opens Monday. Get the habit and keep healthy.

Tech assumes intercollegiate relations in a new line of sport—Gym work. Will the team make good?

It's around the world with W. B. Tardy at the Union tonight. Mr. Tardy besides being a good seaman is a rattling good talker and those who embark with him tonight are assured a delightful trip.

Now that the Technology fencing team seems certain of winning the intercollegiate preliminaries tomorrow night, it is up to the fellows to show the individual members of the team that their efforts have been appreciated. Everyone who can should be at the Gym tomorrow night at eight.

Data of considerable value to a man in helping him to determine his course of life can be gathered from the biographies of men who have made good. Technology men ought to be especially interested in the biographies of great engineers.

In the Engineering News of February 11 is a sketch of the life of Edward Bates, president of the American Society of Civil Engineers. Among other things, this says that Mr. Bates, on reaching the age of 57 years has retired from active practice for the purpose of following certain branches of knowledge outside of his profession, which, due to the pressure of technical work, he has never before had time to pursue. That a man of Mr. Bates' standing in the engineering profession should do this is not only interesting but significant to engineers as the attitude of a man who has more than made good.

It is safe to say that he would not care to give up the best years of his life to a broad pursuit of knowledge if he had not all of his life been interested in things outside of his profession. Undoubtedly this broad and lasting interest, which seems to be the most striking point in regard to his life (except that he is not a college graduate), has had considerable weight in making him a great engineer. This is an example of the truth that other things being equal the man with the biggest, broadest interests is the greatest man. It should interest Institute men to note that the greatest success does not always lie in strict specialization, for here is a great engineer, whose most striking quality is that he possessed and kept up a broad interest in all branches of human knowledge.

CORPORATION ELECTION

At its stated meeting, held on Wednesday afternoon, the Corporation of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology elected as the three term members for the current five year period, Walter B. Snow '82, Theodore W. Robinson '84, and Charles R. Richards '85.

The reports of the standing committees on the departments of chemistry, modern languages, and English were presented at the meeting.

The appointment of Professor C. M.

Spofford to the Hayward Professorship of Civil Engineering was confirmed.

The gift of \$5,000 by Mrs. Elizabeth Burling Osgood for the establishment of a scholarship in electricity was announced.

It was announced that the Executive Committee had asked Dr. MacLaurin to assume office on June 1, 1909. Dr. MacLaurin and Mrs. MacLaurin will be in Boston today and tomorrow. Dr. MacLaurin will confer with Pres. Noyes.

NO CHANGES MADE

(Continued from page 1.)

A committee will be appointed to look after this matter. The idea is to keep dates of meetings, dinners, and the like posted as far in advance as possible and to have this calendar consulted by the officers of the organization and managers of teams before making final dates, thus avoiding conflicts in so far as possible.

L. D. Nisbet 1909, spoke of the necessity of a reading light in the lecture room of the Union so that speakers might read their notes while the lantern is in use. This will be referred to the Union Committee. Nisbet further declared that any man who wore his hat in the Union should "not only be severely spanked, but should have a rope tied around him and hung out of the Union window for the edification of the passerby!" Nisbet was appointed by the chair to frame a suitable set of resolutions regarding this matter, to be presented at the next meeting of the committee.

Other questions of interest brought up were those of ventilation in the Union and sanitation in Rogers building. Regarding sanitation a letter is to be sent to the faculty calling their attention to the inadequacy of the present system, as well as to its decidedly unsanitary and unhealthy condition.

Pres. J. H. Critchett 1909, announced that flowers were presented to Mrs. Barton Rogers on her birthday and that the latter expressed herself as much pleased with the gift.

C. W. Hubbard 1909, tendered his resignation as a member of the committee, as he is no longer president of the Mechanical Engineering Society.

Mr. Howard W. DuBois, mining engineer of Philadelphia, will speak in Huntington Hall on March 15th, at 8 P. M. His topic will be "The Determination of Salting in Mine Examinations."

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SEDGWICK AT AMHERST

At a Convocation on Wednesday Professor Sedgwick addressed the student body of Amherst Agricultural College. The subject of his address was "Charles Darwin, his life and work."

His coming trip west has as yet not been definitely planned. He will start, however, some time in the middle of April, and is not going all the way to the Pacific coast probably only as far as the Missouri valley states.

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THIRD PHYSICS LECTURE

A large number of students, professors and others interested gathered in Huntington Hall yesterday afternoon to listen to Prof. Percival Lowell's third lecture on Cosmic Physics, entitled "The Formation of Planets." Prof. Lowell spoke of the ease with which systems of the universe may be manufactured but the very great difficulty in arriving at a perfectly correct and satisfactory cosmogony. Congruities must give us the clue to the mode of formation of the solar system. It was the fact that the orbits of the planets lie very nearly in the same plane and that the planets, as far as he knew, revolved and rotated in the same sense which lead Laplace to his famous nebular hypothesis.

The majority of the satellites keep the same face always turned toward the planet around which they revolve and moreover they show extraordinary regularity in their distribution, the masses of the satellites nearest the central planet being less than those at a medium distance and the masses of these in turn greater than those farther away from the planet.

Certain facts as the abnormal direction of rotation of Uranus and Neptune and the excessive low moment of momentum of the present system, have forced us to abandon Laplace's hypothesis.

"All facts," said Prof. Lowell, "point to the formation of the solar system through an initial segregation of small bodies and its subsequent development through tidal action." The knots in the original nebula were the nuclei of the planets and around them the scattered masses of the nebula were segregated. In time tides due to the sun brought the planes of the orbits of the planets into coincidence with each other, as we see them today and caused the innermost members of the system, Mercury and Venus, to rotate in the same time as they revolve, that is, to keep the same face always toward the sun.

The same action occurred in the case of the satellite system. This theory, however, is incapable of explaining the retrograde motions of the ninth satellite of Saturn and the eighth of Jupiter.

Prof. Lowell illustrated his various points with lantern slides. In closing he said that the first three lectures had dealt with the rise of the solar system; the last three would have to do with the appearance of organic life and the decline of the system.

TRACK WORK BEGINS

(Continued from page 1.)

candidates the benefit of their longer experience. Coach Kanaly believes that at least 40 men from the student body should try for these events, which are the weakest spot in the Institute team. Only six men appeared yesterday. They were besides those mentioned above P. H. Mayers 1910, and G. W. Richards 1912.

A run will be held at Hyde Park tomorrow rain or shine. Capt. Eldred 1911 will have charge of the men. Kanaly will also run but for the only time this spring as his presence is needed at the Field.

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The Review aims to develop closer relations among Institute men and to stimulate their interest in the work of the College. It is in no sense an engineering magazine, but deals broadly with the problems of Technological Education and the responsibilities of the professional man.

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NOTICES

1911.—Important Class Meeting in Huntington Hall. Today at 1 P. M.

1912.—Candidates for battery of base ball team leave names and positions at cage.

CATHOLICS.—Meeting of the Catholic Club in Union Tuesday evening at 8 P. M. An interesting speaker has been provided.

E. E. SOCIETY.—Meeting Tuesday. F. R. C. Boyd 1901, of the General Electric Co. at Lynn, will talk on "Steam Turbine Troubles." Members of the Civil and Mechanical Engineering Societies are invited to attend.

WEIGHT SQUAD:—All candidates for the weight events on the track team will practice regularly on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the lot in front of the Lowell building at 4.15 P. M. Coach Kanaly will be on the spot at this time and place. There are chances for a number of new men in this department. No uniform other than school clothes is necessary. The events to be practiced here are the hammer and discus throws and the shot put.

HARE AND HOUNDS:—There will be a hare and hound run tomorrow at Hyde Park, where the men will have the use of the shower baths and swimming tank. This run will not be postponed for anything short of a blizzard. Coach Kanaly wants to see a large squad out. Stephenson and Billings will lay a short easy trail of about 4 miles. The squad will leave Back Bay station at 2.19 P. M. Round trip fare is 25 cents.

FACULTY NOTICES

Any student taking either French II or German II may be admitted to any conference on that subject, on consultation with the instructor conducting it, regardless of the section with which he attends regular exercises.

Attention is called to the following Faculty rule relating to deficiencies: "All marks of D (and of F in Drawing or Laboratory work), except in Physical Laboratory, incurred during the first term must be removed not later than the end of the following March. Those incurred in the second term must be removed not later than the end of the following November; except that extension of time may be granted by the Faculty in the case of subjects which from the character of the work can be pursued to better advantage in the term for which the record is given. All deficiencies in Physical Laboratory work must be removed at a date to be determined by the instructor, which date shall not be later than the end of the following November.

In case a mark of D is not removed at the date thus determined, the student shall be required to discontinue any dependent subjects which he is taking and can only obtain a clear record by repeating the subject in which the D was given."

Petitions for extension of time for making up deficiencies incurred last term must be presented to the Faculty before the first of April, 1909.

A. L. MERRILL,
Secretary of the Faculty.

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